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Blaydon

Urban District Council

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1962







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Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Blaydon-on-Tyne.

Telephone:  
Blaydon 161

July, 1963.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Blaydon Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1962.

The population figures show a natural increase of 125 over the figures for 1961 with an estimated population increase of 330.

Both the birth rate and the number of births are lower than in 1961 while the number of deaths as well as the death rate show an increase. In small population numbers, such variations as have occurred in 1962 could well arise by chance and, unless the trend were to persist, cannot be regarded as of significance. The infant mortality rate is fractionally lower than for 1961 and, this year, compares favourably with the rate for Durham County. Of the deaths occurring during the first month of life, all were during the first week, a tribute to the standard of post-natal care which is attained. Once again, no deaths were recorded from pregnancy or other maternal causes.

Of the 389 deaths during the year, 199 were the result of cardio-vascular disease while 72 were caused by cancer, figures in this latter respect being comparable with those for 1959 and 1960 when the numbers were 78 and 74 respectively.

Infectious disease notifications show the usual alternate year decreases, 70 cases being recorded compared with 618 last year, the measles figures being 8 as against 539 in 1961. Notified cases of tuberculosis fell from 25 to 11 and the number remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year was 220, a drop of 12 compared with the end of 1961. 2 deaths from this disease were notified. During the year, no cases of dysentery were reported as against 38 in the previous year, no food poisoning arose and it is pleasing to record no cases of diphtheria, poliomyelitis or smallpox throughout the District.

Immunisation programmes continued and will continue to be pursued vigorously, with prophylaxis against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, smallpox and tuberculosis. Protection against the first four diseases can be given either singly or in various combinations and oral poliomyelitis vaccine has been introduced this year for school children and others. Vaccination against tuberculosis by means of B.C.G. continues to be carried out as a Local Authority measure.

Details of the operation in the District of the Blood Donor Panel and of the Mobile X-ray Unit are embodied in the text of this Report.

Food premises, of which there are some 200 in the District, were all visited at least once during the year and it was pleasing to note that shopkeepers and



shop assistants have become increasingly aware of their responsibilities and obligations under the Food Hygiene Regulations. Minor infringements of the Regulations were found in 28 cases and were successfully dealt with informally. In no instance was statutory action necessary.

Close collaboration with the Surveyor's Department has resulted in fairly good progress being made towards the recovery, for park and recreational purposes, of derelict land at Blaydon and at Rowlands Gill refuse disposal points.

In consequence of the additional packaging of the day-to-day items purchased by housewives and implementation by the Council of the provisions of the Clean Air Act, the character of domestic refuse has become progressively each year lighter and more bulky. This trend is likely to continue and its attendant problems relating to collection can only be solved by introducing into the service larger capacity vehicles provided with efficient compaction units.

Despite the efforts made by the Ministry and the Council to stimulate the interest of landlords in the improvement of property under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, response and progress in this direction has continued to be disappointingly extremely slow. Only 47 applications for standard improvement grants, mainly from owner-occupiers, were received during the year. If this trend continues and sub-standard houses, still with a useful life ahead of them, are allowed to degenerate into the unfit category, some measure of compulsion may need to be introduced and used in respect of landlords who remain unwilling to carry out necessary improvements.

Although the number of listed applicants for council house accommodation has only fallen by 35, it is gratifying to note that, through the efforts of the Housing Manager and the appropriate sub-committee, the percentage of overcrowding amongst such applicants has fallen to 11.17 as compared with 25.60 at the end of 1961.

Further progress continued to be made towards improving housing conditions by means of slum clearance. 78 houses, subject to Orders made under the Housing Act, were demolished. Rehousing of families from unfit houses continued at a steady pace throughout the year and, as a result of this, 49 such families were allocated Council houses.

This Council, whose District is designated 'Black', has agreed to carry out as expeditiously as possible a continuous programme for the establishment of Smoke Control Areas throughout the District until the whole of the urban area is free of avoidable smoke pollution. This highly desirable state cannot be achieved overnight. The implementation of the Act of necessity must be gradual and the rate of progress will be governed to a large extent by certain factors such as the available supply of smokeless fuels, the rate at which appliances can be converted or replaced and, most of all, by the degree of support by the public and its readiness to co-operate with the Council in its efforts to secure clean air.

The year has again been one of satisfactory progress in most respects. Improved sanitary and health measures have continued to be sought and achieved. This has, in no small degree, resulted from the understanding and co-operation of the Health Committee and the whole Council to whom my thanks are expressed. The relationship which existed has made my task the more pleasing and the work of the Department the more effective.

I would record my thanks to the County Medical Officer and his staff for their continued most willing co-operation. Also to my Area Health Clerk for her able assistance in not only organising work done in the District as a Local Health Authority responsibility but for collecting and supplying the details of such work for inclusion in this Report.

I would accord my thanks to colleagues in other Departments of the Council. By no means least, the staff of the Health Department deserve mention. I am once again indebted to the Senior Public Health Inspector for his able support, to the Departmental clerk during a most strenuous year of clerical duties, and to other Departmental staff for excellent and untiring work throughout the year. Without such, together with the good relations existing within the Department, the high standard which has been maintained would not have been possible.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN A. DRYDEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

## I. SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND PHYSICAL FEATURES

Part of the northern boundary is the River Tyne from Derwent Haughs to Stella Haughs which is also the boundary between the counties of Durham and Northumberland. From Stella to where it joins Stanley Burn at the north-west extremity of the District the boundary follows the line of Blaydon, Barlow and Coal Burns and separates Blaydon and Ryton Urban Districts.

The Urban District is bounded on the West by the County Boundary via the Red, Clinty and Milkwell Burns ending at Blackhall Mill. Adjoining Blaydon Urban District to the West are parts of Prudhoe Urban, Hexham Rural and Consett Urban Districts.

The River Derwent forms the South and South-East boundary of the District and enters the Tyne East of Blaydon at Derwent Haugh.

### WARDS.

This District is divided into five Wards viz:-

- (1) **BLAYDON** — is situated on the south bank of the River Tyne and is both residential and industrial. The main industries are heavy and light engineering, iron foundries, brickworks and fireclay works. Further industrial development is taking place in an area of this Ward to the east of Blaydon along Chainbridge Road near Scotswood Bridge. The Ward also provides the principal shopping facilities for the populace of the surrounding areas.
- (2) **WINLATON** — is situated to the south of Blaydon at a height of 300 feet and is basically residential. Large scale housing development has taken place in this Ward during the post-war years and is still continuing. Most of the population is employed outside the Ward in engineering on industrial Tyneside, the mining and the railway industries.
- (3) **ROWLANDS GILL** — lies low in the Derwent Valley, is semi-rural in character and is essentially residential. Post-war housing development has been, and will continue to be, concentrated in this area. The population, most of which is employed in the mining industry, finds employment mainly outside the Ward.
- (4) **HIGH SPEN**—is rural in character and is essentially residential. A substantial part stands above the 500 feet contour. The population is mostly concentrated in High Spen, a typical coal mining village although the industry has declined over the past few years. Apart from one industrial establishment, the population finds employment at collieries outside the Ward.
- (5) **CHOPWELL** — is mostly agricultural and forestry, the bulk of the population being concentrated in Chopwell and Blackhall Mill. Coal Mining is the chief industry in the Ward and employment is provided in the main at Chopwell Colliery.

## II.

## STATISTICS.

### General.

Acreage — 9,325.

Number of inhabited houses :

Council 3,722      Other 6,434      Total 10,156

Number of Other Premises : 1,731

Rateable Value : £727,959

Sum represented by a penny rate : £2,750

### Vital

Population — 1931 — 32,248

1951 — 30,791

1962 — 31,120

Density of persons per house : 3.06.

Births : Comparability Factor 0.96

Live Births :	Male	Female	Total
Number	269	245	514
Rate per 1,000 population :			C.F. Adjusted
Blaydon U.D.		16.52	15.86
Durham County		18.60	17.90
England and Wales		18.00	—

Illegitimate Live Births :	Male	Female	Total
Number	10	6	16

Percentage of total live births : 3.11%.

Still Births :	Male	Female	Total
Number	6	3	9

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births : 17.21

Total Live and Still Births : 523

Deaths : Comparability Factor : 1.23

	Male	Female	Total
Number	207	182	389
Crude Death Rate :			C.F. Adjusted
Blaydon U.D.		12.50	15.38
Durham County		11.60	14.30
England and Wales		11.90	—

The commonest causes of death during 1962 were :

1. Coronary Disease, Angina .....	84
2. Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System .....	62
3. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms .....	36 (+3)
4. Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases .....	35
5. Malignant Neoplasms at defined sites .....	33
6. Other Heart Diseases .....	29 (+2)



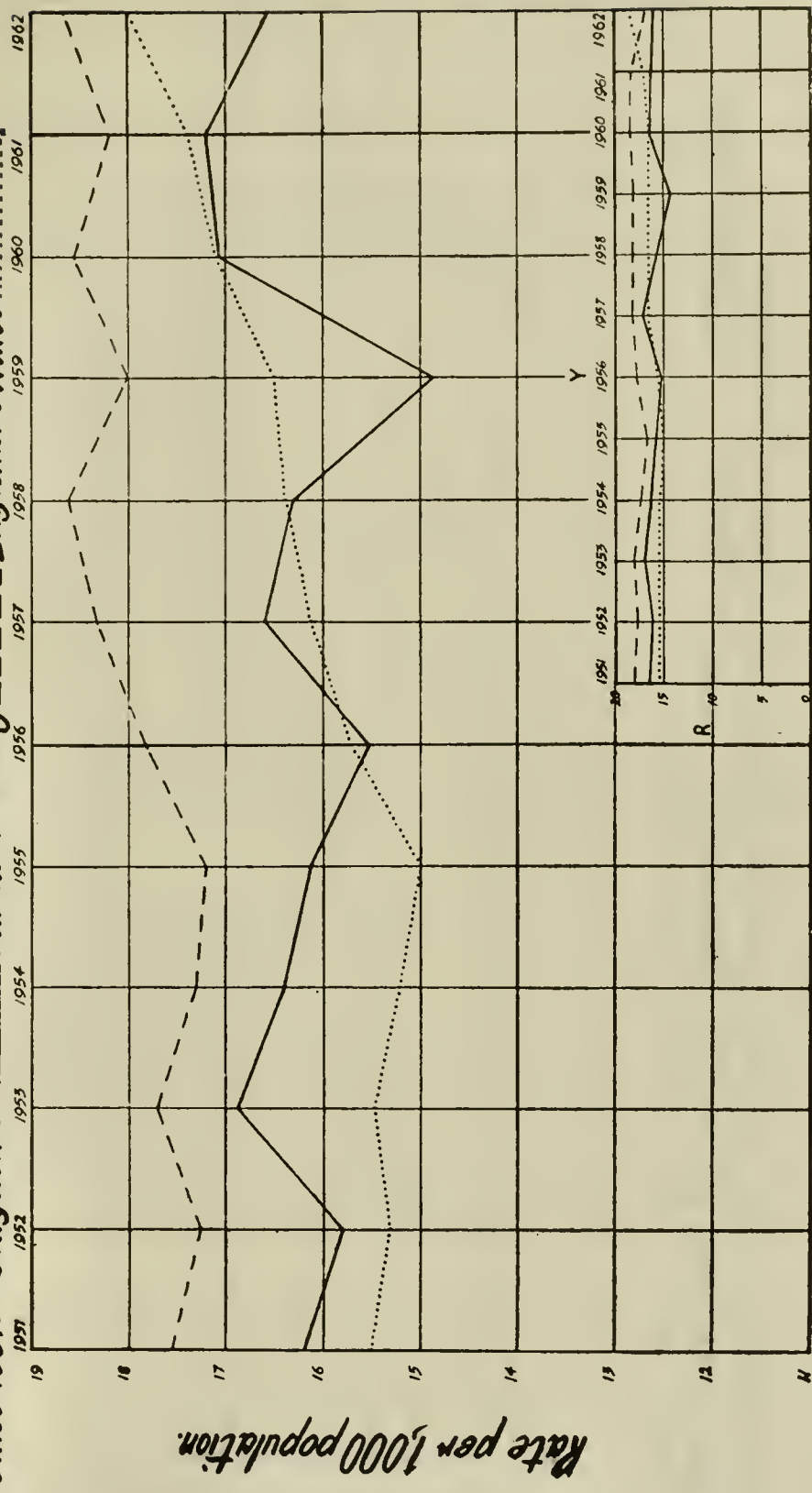
Infant Mortality (deaths under 1 year)			
	Male	Female	Total
Number	6	7	13
Infant Mortality Rates (total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births)			
Blaydon U.D. ....		25.29	
Durham County ....		26.07	
England and Wales ....		20.70	
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births .....			24.10
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births .....			62.5
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births).....			13.62
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births).....			13.62
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)			30.59
Causes of Infant Deaths :			
Prematurity .....		4	
Encephalocele .....		1	
Gastro-enteritis .....		1	
Spina Bifida .....		1	
Pneumonia .....		1	
Broncho-pneumonia .....		3	
Acute Toxaemia .....		1	
Asphyxia Neonatorum .....		1	
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)			
Number of deaths .....			Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births .....			0.00

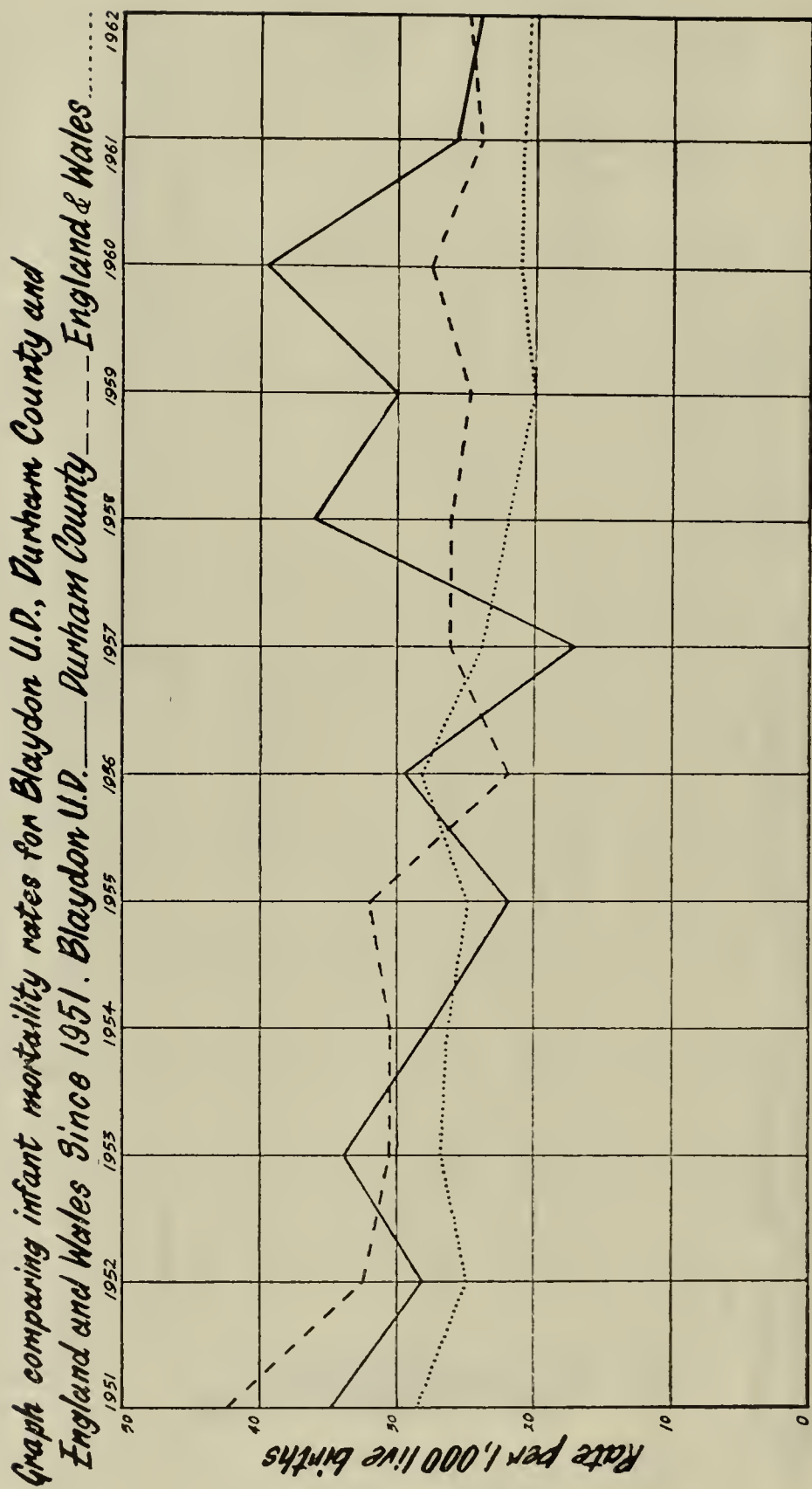
The natural increase of the population for the year, i.e., the excess of births over deaths, was 125.

Graph comparing death rates of Blaydon U.D., Durham County and England and Wales Since 1951. Blaydon U.D. — Durham County --- England & Wales .....



Graph comparing birth rates of Blaydon U.P., Durham County and England and Wales,  
 Since 1951. Blaydon U.D. — Durham County — — — — England & Wales







**THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF  
DEATH DURING 1962.**

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES	Total
1 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	1	4
2 Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—
3 Syphilitic Disease ... ..	2	—	2
4 Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
5 Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—
6 Meningococcal Infection ... ..	—	—	—
7 Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—
8 Measles .. ..	—	—	—
9 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—	1
10 Malignant Neoplasm-Stomach ...	6	7	13
11 Malignant Neoplasm-Lung and Bronchus	14	2	16
12 Malignant Neoplasm-Breast ... ..	—	5	5
12 Malignant Neoplasm-Uterus	—	2	2
14 Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	19	17	36
15 Leukaemia and Aleukaemia .. ..	2	1	3
16 Diabetes .. ..	1	2	3
17 Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	26	36	62
18 Coronary Disease, Angina ... ..	50	34	84
19 Hypertension with Heart Disease	—	2	2
20 Other Heart Diseases ... ..	14	15	29
21 Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	10	12	22
22 Influenza .. ..	—	1	1
23 Pneumonia ... ..	10	8	18
24 Bronchitis ... ..	13	10	23
25 Other Diseases of Respiratory System ..	3	1	4
26 Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	4	1	5
27 Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	1	2	3
28 Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..	—	1	1
29 Hyperplasia of Prostate ... ..	—	—	—
30 Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion ..	—	—	—
31 Congenital Malformations ... ..	4	1	5
32 Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases ..	15	20	35
33 Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..	3	—	3
34 All Other Accidents ... ..	3	—	3
35 Suicide ... ..	2	1	3
36 Homicide and Operations of War ... ..	1	—	1
TOTALS	207	182	389

### **III. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES**

#### **NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.**

##### **Hospital and Specialist Services Provision.**

##### **(I) Hospital Services.**

Hospital facilities for the District are provided, through the North-West Durham Hospital Management Committee, by the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board.

##### **(a) General.**

The Royal Victoria Infirmary and the General Hospital, Newcastle, and the Bensham and the Queen Elizabeth Hospitals, Gateshead, receive the majority of medical and surgical cases from the District. Some cases are also referred to and treated at the Hexham General Hospital when convenient. Hospital in-patient and out-patient treatment for suitable cases is also obtainable at the Dunston Hill Hospital; and the Whickham and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital undertakes the treatment of a limited number of medical and surgical cases. Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester, has a bed capacity of 300 and caters for patients who are chronically sick, orthopaedic or geriatric in category. It also provides for Part III Accommodation patients as required under the National Assistance Act.

##### **(b) Midwifery and Gynaecology.**

The great majority of cases of this nature which require hospital treatment are sent either to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle, the Bensham General or the Queen Elizabeth Hospitals, Gateshead, or the Richard Murray Hospital, Shotley Bridge.

##### **(c) Infectious Diseases.**

##### **(i) Tuberculosis.**

Provision is made for the hospital treatment of tuberculosis cases in sanatoria throughout the counties of Durham and Northumberland. Norman's Riding Infectious Diseases Hospital, Winlaton, is used as a sanatorium for both male and female patients. There is a Chest Clinic attached to the Whickham and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital where a Chest Physician attends and holds regular clinical sessions. Early diagnosis, and admission to hospital promptly thereafter, of such sufferers has now been achieved resulting in a much improved prospect of recovery and complete cure.

##### **(ii) Venereal Diseases.**

Specialist treatment is available for these complaints at the Venereal Diseases Clinic, the General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne 4, where every effort is made to maintain secrecy and avoid attendance becoming generally known. General practitioners are able to refer their patients to the Clinic for necessary investigation and treatment.

### **(iii) Other Infectious Diseases.**

Cases of infectious disease requiring isolation, other than tuberculosis, venereal diseases, or smallpox, are treated either at the Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital, Gateshead, or the Walkergate Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne. Smallpox cases, should they occur in the District, would be admitted to Langley Park Isolation Hospital.

### **(d) Mental Health.**

The Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester, provides 44 beds for the accommodation of the mentally sick. Acutely mentally ill patients are normally admitted to St. Nicholas' Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne. Less severe cases can also be received there for care and treatment.

### **(e) Convalescent Home.**

The establishment, formerly known as the Castle Hill Convalescent Home situate in Ryton Urban District, is now styled the Country Branch Annexe of the Royal Victoria Infirmary. It is no longer strictly a convalescent home and does not accept patients directly but only for pre or post Royal Victoria Infirmary treatment. There are 95 beds, 50 for women patients and the remainder for men.

## **(2) Laboratory Services.**

The Public Health Laboratory Service for the District operates from the Public Health Laboratory, Pathological Institute, General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, 4. By arrangement with the Durham County Council, all specimens for bacteriological examination are sent there by general practitioners, patients and Health Departments of Local Authorities, investigated and reported upon free of charge.

## **(3) Blood Transfusion Service.**

The Regional Blood Transfusion Service has its Headquarters in the General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, 4. It provides all necessary service for this District. It has a Donor Panel Department which organises and maintains Blood Donor Panels in each locality. In this District, during 1962, sessions were held as under. The figures show the strength of the panels on the dates listed, also the number of donations which were received during the year.

Name of Panel	Session Centre	Date of Session	Strength of Panel	Total Attendance
Blaydon	Trinity Church Hall, John Street, Blaydon	7th February	155	98
		27th July	175	88
Chopwell	Co-op. Hall, Chopwell	22nd June, 1962	149	88
		21st Dec., 1962	152	87
Rowlands Gill	Miners' Welfare Hall, Rowlands Gill	24th April, 1962	160	79
		2nd Oct., 1962	166	93
Winlaton	Miners' Welfare Hall, Winlaton	19th Feb., 1962	170	98
		20th Aug., 1962	153	85

Further sessions will be arranged in the District during 1963.

#### (4) Mass Miniature Radiography.

The Mass Radiography Unit which serves this District is Unit 1A, which is based on the Newcastle General Hospital, 418 Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, 4. A Mobile Unit visits the District at times throughout the year and holds public sessions and sessions at industrial establishments. The statistics for this District are given below.

Year	Number of Miniature Films			Number referred to Chest Clinic		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1962	417	75	492	8	—	8

Public sessions were held at Winlaton. The industrial establishments visited during 1962 were :—

Galloways Ltd. (plus seven small firms) Blaydon  
Murray and Charlton Ltd., Blaydon

Extensive surveys are carried out in alternate years and, as in 1961, a more extensive survey will be carried out again in 1963.

#### Local Authority Provision.

##### (1) Local Health Authority.

The Local Health Authority for the Urban District is Durham County Council which is responsible for the following Health Services.

- (a) Health Centres.
- (b) Maternity and Child Welfare
- (c) Midwifery
- (d) Health Visiting
- (e) Home Nursing
- (f) Vaccination and Immunisation
- (g) Ambulances
- (h) Prevention of illness; Care and After-Care of sick persons
- (i) Home Help Service
- (j) Mental Health

##### (a) Health Centres.

There are no Health Centres within the meaning of the Act in operation in the District.

##### (b) Maternity and Child Welfare.

Clinics for the treatment of minor ailments in school children, for dental treatment, maternity and child welfare and for sunray treatment, are provided by the Education and Health Departments of Durham County Council at various Centres throughout the District, where mothers and children may attend. Welfare



foods are also distributed from these Centres. Centres in the District hold sessions, provide treatment and supply welfare foods as under :—

Address of Centre		Sessions
Blaydon, Axwell Park Clinic, Shibdon Road (telephone number 291)	Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic	Tuesday mornings & alt. Thursday afternoons
	Dental Clinic	Alt. Friday mornings First Friday morning in month
	Distribution of Welfare Foods	Tuesday all day Friday afternoons
Chopwell, Trinity Methodist Church Hall	Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic	Alt. Monday mornings
	Distribution of Welfare Foods	Monday mornings
Rowlands Gill, Miners' Welfare Hall, Strathmore Road	Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic	Alt. Wednesdays
	Distribution of Welfare Foods	Alt. Wednesdays
High Spen Co-operative Hall	Distribution of Welfare Foods	Tuesday afternoons
Winlaton, Litchfield Lane Methodist Church	Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic	Tuesdays weekly
	Distribution of Welfare Foods	Tuesday all day
Winlaton Mill, Village Hall	Distribution of Welfare Foods	Alt. Tuesday mornings (11 a.m.-12 noon)

Assistant Welfare Medical Officers attend and, as appropriate, the Dental Officer, attends certain sessions at Centres, information regarding which can be obtained at the appropriate Centre.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Centres are open from 9-30 a.m.-12 noon and from 1-30 p.m.-4 p.m. and the Centres for the distribution of Welfare Foods from 10 a.m.-12 noon and 2 p.m.-4 p.m. on the stated days.

### (c) Midwifery.

An expectant mother can have the services of a doctor who undertakes maternity work as part of the General Practitioner Services organised by the Durham Executive Council. Ante-natal and post-natal care are available at Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics at Axwell Park, Blaydon, on Friday mornings and at Winlaton on alternate Thursday mornings. A domiciliary midwifery service is also provided. The names, addresses and telephone numbers of the District midwives are given below :—

Ward	Name	Address	Tel. No.
Blaydon	Mrs. H. Waggott	17 Oswin Street, Blaydon	Blaydon 351
Winlaton	Miss M. Buckley	1 Heddon View, Winlaton	Blaydon 177
	Mrs. K. Hodgson	36 Thornton Crescent, Loup Farm Est., Blaydon	
Rowlands Gill	Mrs. M. I. Moan	11 Olga Terrace, Highfield	Row. Gill 502
High Spen	Mrs. M. I. Moan	11 Olga Terrace, Highfield	Row. Gill 502
Chopwell	Mrs. I. Holliday	38 Peartree Terrace, Chopwell	Chopwell 223
Blackhall Mill	Mrs. J. A. Haddock	44 Rosedale Avenue, Blackhill	Shotley Br. 130

185 births in the District were notified by midwives during the year.

#### (d) Health Visiting.

Health Visitors attend persons in their homes for the purpose of giving advice to expectant and nursing mothers on the care of young children and to aged or ill persons; also to stress the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection. The names and addresses of the District Health Visitors and the number and types of domiciliary visits carried out in Blaydon Urban District are given below :—

Ward	Name	Address
High Spen and Rowlands Gill	Miss G. A. Bryant	22 Cowen Terrace, Rowlands Gill
Blaydon (part of)	Miss G. Cato	51 Aquila Drive, Heddon-on-the-Wall Northumberland
Chopwell and Blackhall Mill	Mrs. E. Robinson	Swiss Cottage, Hamsterley Mill Estate, Rowlands Gill
Blaydon (part of) Winlaton (part of)	Miss J. Sanderson	3 The Crescent, Bridgehill, Blackhill
Blaydon (part of) Winlaton (part of)	Mrs. F. M. Cavanagh	2 Woodlands Road, Shotley Bridge Shotley Bridge 3158

#### Domiciliary Visits

Maternity and Child Welfare .....	8,275
Tuberculosis .. ..	545
Mentally Sub-normal .....	236
Schools .....	598
General Health .....	94
Aged People .....	549

TOTAL — 10,297

#### (e) Home Nursing.

A Home Nursing Service is provided in the District as the responsibility of the Local Health Authority. Any requests for the services of a Home Nurse should be made to the Superintendent of Nursing at County Hall, Durham (Tel. No. Durham 4411); or to one of the District Nurses whose names, addresses and telephone numbers are listed below :—

Ward	Name	Address	Tel. No.
Blaydon	Mrs. K. M. Chambers	Broad Oak, Axwell Park, Blaydon	Blaydon 153
Chopwell	Miss G. Hearne	2 Trent Street, Chopwell	Chopwell 221
High Spen	Mrs. E. Angus	13 Barkwood Road, Rowlands Gill	Row. Gill 629
Rowlands Gill	Miss E. Graham	Dunswood, Lockhaugh, Rowlands Gill	Row. Gill 659
Winlaton	Mrs. L. I. Auckland	6 Naylor Avenue, Winlaton Mill	Blaydon 203

16,021 visits were made by the District Nurses during the year.

#### (f) Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination against smallpox may be obtained free of charge on application to any medical practitioner who has agreed to give service within the National

Health Service General Practitioner Service; and also for children at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres

Immunisation, against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, may also be obtained free of charge on application to Maternity and Child Welfare Centres; or from any General Practitioner in the National Health Service.

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis may be carried out, in appropriate circumstances, by the Chest Physician at the Chest Clinic at Whickham. A scheme for the vaccination with B.C.G. of all non-immune school children over eleven years is being carried out yearly by the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area.

No B.C.G. immunisation programme had been started prior to November, 1961. In view of the size of the problem, as an initial programme in 1961 and 1962, protection of all school children over 12 years of age was offered. All school children of 11 years and upward will be included in the 1963 programme.

Immunisation against poliomyelitis is available free of charge for all unprotected persons under forty years of age and not less than six months old on the date of application, for all expectant mothers and for certain other specified persons on application to general practitioners, at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, to the County Health Department in Durham or to the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area. Sessions are also arranged at clinics in the District where eligible persons may receive such protection. Protection by oral vaccine as well as by injection is now offered.

Statistics of immunisations and vaccinations carried out in the District are given in Part IV of this report.

#### **(g) Ambulance Service.**

The Durham County Council Health Department controls and provides the ambulance facilities for the Administrative County.

All requests for an ambulance should be made to the Message Receiving Centre at the Ambulance Station, East Street, Stanley (Tel. No. Stanley 570) which is responsible for such service to the Blaydon, Ryton and Whickham Urban Districts. The Centre is open for message reception for 24 hours a day and has direct communication with Ambulance Headquarters at Durham.

A General Service Sub-Depot at Winlaton deals, on instruction from Stanley, with routine work of the service from 8-0 a.m. to 8-0 p.m. Monday to Friday, and from 8-0 a.m. to 4-0 p.m. on Saturdays.

Details of the work carried out in respect of No. 1 Health Area are given below :—

Stretcher Cases	Sitting Cases	Journeys	Miles
1,893	16,884	3,802	106,933

#### **(h) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care of Sick Persons.**

Nursing equipment for sick persons is provided, on request by medical practitioners, district nurses and hospital almoners. Invalid chairs are also available



and extra nourishment or bedding can be supplied to patients suffering from tuberculosis. A charge is normally made for this service. But, in certain circumstances, the charge may be reduced or waived altogether.

The underlisted equipment can be so supplied and equipment was received by 144 residents of Blaydon Urban District during 1962 :—

Air-rings	Bedrests	Mattresses (Sorbo)
Bed-Cages	Adult Cots	Rubber Sheeting
Bed Packs	Commodes	Fracture Boards
Bedsteads (Iron)	Chairs (Push)	Eneuresis Sets
Lifting Poles	Chairs (Junior Push)	Junior Spinal Carriages
Dunlopillo Cushions	Chairs (Rim-Driven)	Urinals
Bedpans	Leg Rests	

Limited accommodation is available in convalescent homes provided by voluntary agencies and the County Council and information can be obtained from the County Health Department. Domiciliary visits are made to patients at home by Health Visitors and District Nurses.

**(i) Home Help Services.**

Domestic help is provided for households where such help is needed because of the presence of any person who is ill, an expectant mother, lying-in, mentally ill, aged or a child not over school age. Requests for the services of a Home Help can be made to the Assistant Organiser for the Area, Mrs. L. Caley, 25, Grange Road, Ryton (Tel. No. Ryton 2466) or to a Health Visitor, or directly to the Health Department, County Hall, Durham (Tel. No. Durham 4411).

Details of work undertaken by the Home Help Service in No. 1 Health Area (Blaydon, Ryton and Whickham Urban Districts) during the year are given below:

Number of cases at 1-1-62 .....	349
New cases served during year .....	151
Total number of cases served during year .....	500
Cases terminated during year .....	140
Cases served at 31-12-62 ... ..	360
Number of Home Helps employed at 31-12-62 .....	240
Visits made by Assistant Organiser during year ....	5,062

**(j) Mental Health.**

Under the Mental Health Act, the Local Health Authority is responsible for domiciliary supervision, care and after care of the mentally sick and the educationally sub-normal.

An Adult Residential Training Centre for the Educationally Subnormal of the County has been opened at Lanchester. Residents live-in from Monday to Friday of each week, returning home at the week-end.

For non-adults, a similar but non-residential Junior Training Centre is established at Consett. There is also a Day Centre at Gateshead for the Educationally Subnormal which can be attended by residents from Whickham, Dunston and Swalwell. There are two such Centres, the Junior Training Centre for the boys and girls under sixteen years, and the Senior Training Centre for older boys.



## **(2) Local Sanitary Authority.**

The Urban District Council is the Local Sanitary Authority and the work carried out by the District Health Department is discussed in detail later in the Report.

### **Executive Council Provision.**

The Durham Executive Council is responsible for the provision of the General Medical and Dental, the Pharmaceutical and the Supplementary Ophthalmic Services for the District. Medical practices in the District are largely partnerships of two or more doctors.

## **EDUCATION ACT, 1944.**

### **Local Authority.**

The Durham County Council is the Local Education Authority for the Urban District.

### **School Health Services.**

The School Health Services are provided by the County Council. They are in charge of the County Medical Officer who, as Principal School Medical Officer, carries out the requirements of the Act through his Deputy and staff. The services provide for the systematic medical inspection and for the medical and dental treatment of school children. Special School Clinics have been built—often a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre functions in the same building—where a School Medical Officer attends on a sessional basis and also has routine attendances at the actual schools medically supervised.

When a child is found at medical examination to require specialist examination, arrangements are made, with the agreement of the parents and the family doctor, for the child to attend the appropriate hospital or clinic. Facilities are provided at school clinics for the treatment of minor ailments, defective vision, dental and speech defects. Special schools are provided for handicapped children who are educationally subnormal or delicate. Arrangements are made when necessary for other handicapped children to be placed in special schools maintained by other Authorities.

## **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951.**

### **Section 47—Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention.**

Although the Council are authorised under these Acts, in certain cases, to apply for compulsory powers to remove persons in need of care and attention, in most cases people are anxious to remain in their own homes and it has not been found necessary during this year to take such action. Whilst there is increasing evidence of persons who are aged, infirm, living alone and in need of some degree of assistance, with the co-operation of the Home Help Service and the Welfare Department of the Local Health Authority, and the National Assistance Board, it has been possible to effect improvement in the welfare of these

persons in their homes or by admission to Part III Accommodation on a voluntary basis. As a result, no recourse to compulsory powers has been needed.

Hostel accommodation is provided by the County in No. 1 Health Area at :—

“The Hermitage,” Front Street, Whickham. Tel. No. Whickham 887372 and

“Winton House,” Parkhead Estate, Winlaton. Tel. No. Blaydon 290.

Residents of the District requiring such type of accommodation can also, in addition, be admitted to any of the County Hostels throughout Durham County. Information regarding these can be obtained from the Assistant County Medical Officer.

50 residents of Blaydon Urban District are now accommodated in residential Part III Accommodation, 35 males and 15 females.

### **Section 50—Burial and Cremation of the Dead.**

Under the above Section, Local Authorities are required to arrange for the burial or cremation of the dead where no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are otherwise available.

It was necessary to make use of this provision for one burial.

# IV. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIONOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

## PREVALENCE.

The number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year was 72 compared with 618 for 1961. Details are as follows :—

DISEASE	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED	CASES ADMITTED TO I.D. HOSPITALS	CASES CONFIRMED BY LABORATORY
Scarlet Fever ... ..	5	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	44	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	8	—	—
Acute Pneumonia ... ..	2	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Paralytic ... ..	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic ... ..	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	—	—
Tuberculosis - Respiratory ...	9	1	—
Meninges and	—	—	—
C.N.S. ... ..	—	—	—
Other Forms ... ..	2	1	—
Totals	70	2	—

TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1962, SHOWING AGE GROUP DISTRIBUTIONS.

Disease	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over	Unknown	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Whooping Cough	6	11	2	5	6	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	44
Measles	1	4	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Acute Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	4	2	—	—	11
Totals	7	16	3	8	7	16	—	1	4	4	2	1	1	70

TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1962 AS COMPARED WITH 1961.

Disease	No. of Cases			
	1961		1962	
	M	F	M	F
Scarlet Fever	2	4	4	1
Whooping Cough	5	3	30	14
Measles	267	272	5	3
Acute Pneumonia	1	—	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	—	—
Dysentery	16	22	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	1	—	—
Tuberculosis	11	12	6	5
Totals	303	315	46	24

**Scarlet Fever.**

The policy of home treatment of this disease has continued where satisfactory isolation arrangements were possible. When hospital isolation is considered necessary, admission to Sheriff Hill Hospital is arranged.

**Diphtheria.**

No cases of diphtheria were notified.

**Poliomyelitis.**

No cases of paralytic poliomyelitis were notified during the year.

**Smallpox.**

No cases were notified.

**Dysentery.**

No cases of dysentery were notified during the year compared with thirty-eight in 1961.

**Food Poisoning.**

No cases were notified.

**Tuberculosis.**

9 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, and 2 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year. 2 deaths from this disease were reported. Details of the incidence of this disease and the numbers of persons currently registered are given below :—

Table A — Case incidence and mortality notified during 1962.

		Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Totals		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
On Register										
at 1-1-62	....	86	93	179	29	24	53	115	117	232
New Cases	....	5	4	9	1	1	2	6	5	11
Cases removed										
into District	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	....	91	97	188	30	25	55	121	122	243
Recovered	....	3	6	9	1	2	3	4	8	12
Cases removed out										
of District	....	7	2	9	—	—	—	7	2	9
Died	....	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
On Register										
at 21-12-62		81	87	168	29	23	52	110	110	220

Table B — Age group distribution of new cases notified (including inward transfers).

Age Periods	New Cases			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulm'ary	
	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—
1 — 4	—	—	—	—
5 — 14	—	—	—	—
15 — 24	1	—	—	1
25 — 34	2	1	1	—
35 — 44	2	2	—	—
45 — 54	—	—	—	—
55 — 64	—	1	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—
Age not known	—	—	—	—
Totals	5	4	1	1

## CONTROL.

Below are given statistics and information of the measures which have been taken for the protection of residents in the District against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, Smallpox and Tuberculosis.

### Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Protection against these three infections can be given separately or jointly and the figures below give information in respect of Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

#### Diphtheria.

	1960	1961	1962
Primary .....	29	207	149
Boosters .....	2	2	—
	31	209	149

#### Whooping Cough.

	1960	1961	1962
Primary .....	26	201	150
Boosters .....	1	1	—
	27	202	150

#### Tetanus.

	1960	1961	1962
Primary .....	28	192	140
Boosters .....	1	2	—
	29	194	140



## Poliomyelitis.

### Area Statistics.

By the 31st December, 1962, 23,281 persons had received primary poliomyelitis vaccinations in the Area comprising the Urban Districts of Blaydon, Ryton and Whickham. Of these 17,525 had received their third injections in addition. The age group distribution of primary vaccinations was as under :—

Number of Persons with two Salk injections at any time up to 31-12-62					Number of persons who have had 3 Salk injections up to 31-12-62
Born 1962	Born 1943-1961	Born 1933-1942	Others	Total	
5	16,396	4,673	2,207	23,281	17,525

### District Statistics.

#### Primary Vaccinations (Injection and Oral).

##### Salk (Injections).

Born 1962	Born 1943-1961	Born 1933-1942	Others	Total	Third Injection	Fourth Injection
5	378	77	124	584	602	105

##### Sabin (Oral).

Born 1962	Born 1943-1961	Born 1933-1942	Others	Total	After 2 Salk inj.	After 3 Salk inj.
48	2063(1,841)	99(49)	278(211)	2,488(2,101)	331(145)	702(631)

( ) undertaken at Sessions arranged by Medical Officer of Health

## Smallpox.

### Primary Vaccination

Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 years or over	Total
321	81	108	602	409	1,521

### Re-Vaccinations

Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 years or over	Total
—	2	7	104	483	596

## Tuberculosis.

### B.C.G. Vaccination

School	Number Vaccinated	Number Heat Positive	Non- consents	Total Eligible
Blaydon East Modern .....	187	25	27	267
Blaydon R.C. ....	102	24	11	166
Winlaton Modern .....	102	47	42	236
Blaydon Grammar .....	40	12	27	80
Hookergate Grammar .....	80	11	—	103
High Spen Modern .....	156	32	4	203
Chopwell Modern .....	118	8	1	145
Highfield County .....	67	14	3	95
Highfield R.C. ....	21	—	—	22
Stella R.C. ....	17	2	—	20
Total	890	175	115	1,337

**Water Supply.**

All the houses in the District are supplied with good quality water from the Water Companies' mains. Part of the township of Blaydon is supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company. The remainder of the District is supplied by Durham County Water Board. The supply is continuous and plentiful.

The bacteriological quality of the water is under constant observation and samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory by this department proved satisfactory.

The engineers of the Water Undertakings have kindly supplied the following information respecting supplies in the Area.

**(a) Durham County Water Board.**

Premises supplied in the Blaydon Urban District number 7576.

Twenty-two samples were taken to check the bacteriological quality of the water to confirm a satisfactory supply.

Apart from the usual extensions of mains required by housing developments, no major works were carried out by the Board.

Work which will indirectly affect the District is the re-building of the Honey Hill Treatment Works which will improve the quality of the water throughout the whole of the Board's Northern Area. This work has been considerably retarded by the severe winter.

**(b) Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.**

Dwelling-houses supplied in the Blaydon Urban District number 2,417.

99.2% of samples of filtered water examined at the Company's Throckley Laboratories during the year were classified as excellent.

Bi-monthly chemical analyses of the Company's Water supplies were carried out by Consulting Analysts and the results were, in all cases, satisfactory.

The following new water pipes were laid in the Urban District during the year :—

100 linear yards of 3" dia. pipes

138 linear yards of 6" dia. pipes

**Rivers and Streams.**

No complaints were received during the year which necessitated the institution of formal action.

**Closet Accommodation.**

The following table indicates the number and types of closet accommodation in the District.



Increase or Decrease during the Year

Sanitary Accommodation	Number at 1-1-62	By Conversion	By Improvement	By New Houses	Discontinued Houses Demolished, etc	Total Increase or Decrease	Number at 31-12-62
Water-closets	12,212	+2	+45	+286	-54	+279	12,491
Ash-closets	80	-1	—	—	-23	-24	56
Ashpit privies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

### Collection and Disposal of Household Refuse.

The administration and supervision is the responsibility of the Health Department. The removal of household, shop and factory refuse is carried out by direct labour.

In the interest of economy and efficiency of the cleansing service, the District is divided into two as follows :—

- (a) Blaydon and Winlaton Wards with garage and depot at Hallgarth, Winlaton.
- (b) Rowlands Gill, High Spenn and Chopwell Wards with garage and depot at Chopwell.

Houses, occupied by miners receiving concessionary coal, predominate in the latter wards and this necessitates a twice weekly emptying of a majority of the dust bins; dust bins and ash closets in the remaining part of the District are emptied at least once a week. The work was carried out regularly and, on the whole, satisfactorily throughout the year.

One foreman, twenty one loaders and four drivers are regularly employed on collection, and three men on disposal.

Throughout the year, four vehicles were continuously employed on refuse collection. One old vehicle was kept in reserve to be available for use in the event of vehicular breakdown.

### Drainage and Sewerage.

The Council are represented on the Tyneside Sewage Disposal Working Committee, a body comprising representatives from all riparian authorities both north and south of the River Tyne, whose aims and objects are to alleviate pollution of the River by crude sewage.

The Council aims at 100% treatment of sewage within its District and the

following table gives some indication of the proposed schemes which have been agreed upon to date :—

Area to be served	Proposed Works	Estimated Cost	Remarks
High Spen and Rowlands Gill Wards	Abandon High Spen South Sewage Disposal Works and construct gravity sewer to Lockhaugh Disposal Works	£13,000	Scheme with Minister.
High Spen and Rowlands Gill Wards	Extensions to works to bring effluent up to Royal Commission standard and cater for future population increase	£66,000	Scheme with Minister.
Chopwell Ward	Abandon Blackhall Mill Sewage Disposal Works and construct new works on adjacent site	£60,000	Scheme with Minister.

### Atmospheric Pollution.

The passing of the Clean Air Act, 1956, enabled local authorities to deal generally with smoke emissions from all types of premises but, in particular, it gave to local authorities, for the first time, specific powers to deal with the problem of domestic smoke.

Smoke Control Orders under the Clean Air Act, 1956, were made during the year as follows :—

#### (a) Smoke Control Order, No. 1.

The area subject to this Order is not a particularly large one but the experience gained therein, in the problems of administration and technique, by the staff will, no doubt, prove of great value when more ambitious smoke control schemes are initiated.

The area comprises some 210 acres of the Stella part of Blaydon Ward and contains 248 premises, of which 244 are dwelling-houses.

The Order was confirmed by the Minister on the 10th September, 1962, and will operate from 1st July, 1963.

#### (b) Smoke Control Order, No. 2.

This Order covers approximately 81 acres of the Winlaton Ward and includes the whole of the newly developed Hanover Estate. The character of the area is, in the main, residential and contains 482 dwelling-houses.

The Order was confirmed by the Minister on 14th November, 1962, and will operate from 1st June, 1963.

#### (c) Smoke Control Order, No. 3.

This Order covers an area which is, in effect, an extension of Smoke Control

Areas Nos. 1 and 2 and comprises some 228 acres of the Blaydon and Winlaton Wards. Dwelling-houses within the Area number 283.

The Order was made on the 4th December, 1962 and submitted to the Minister for confirmation.

The Council agreed that the 1st September, 1963, be fixed as the operative date of the Order but, up to the end of the year, it had not been informed of the Minister's decision.

The detailed survey of No. 4 Smoke Control Area was completed by the end of the year.

In establishing Smoke Control Areas it has hitherto been possible to rely on open-fire gas coke being available as a replacement for raw coal, but the gas industry has now made it clear that no increase in the production of gas-coke can be expected. This is regrettable as open-fire coke may cease to be available to meet the requirements of further smoke control areas. No doubt the Ministers concerned are giving due consideration to this problem and will eventually provide an answer to it which will ensure that progress with smoke control is not impeded.

#### **Noise Abatement.**

Following a complaint made by some of the residents of Blaydon Haughs in connection with a noise nuisance from a neighbouring factory, consultations took place between a member of the Health Department staff, the manager and the chief engineer. As a result of these informal meetings much has been done to alleviate the noise and minimise the possibility of any further complaint being made.

#### **Moveable Dwellings and Caravan Sites.**

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 made further provisions for the licensing and control of Caravan Sites.

An application for a Caravan Site Licence under Section 3 of the Act was received in respect of land at Whinfield Works, Rowlands Gill. The site, on inspection, was found to be satisfactory and a licence was granted for a period not exceeding nine months.

A request from an applicant wishing to rent land from the Council as a residential caravan site was not granted.

#### **Offensive Trades.**

No trades, business or manufacturers, defined as 'offensive trades' under Section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936, are established in the District.

#### **Shops Act, 1950.**

Having a population of over 20,000, this Council exercises powers under this Act.

Visits were made to shop premises from time to time for the purposes of the Act and it was found that the provisions relating to closing hours restrictions were generally complied with by the occupiers.

The attention of a number of shop proprietors was drawn to the lack of facilities required, in connection with the health and comfort of shop workers, to conform with the Act. These requirements were complied with without having to institute any formal action.

The anomalous situation still exists regarding mobile shops which are not subject to any jurisdiction whatsoever under the Shops Act as are static shop premises.

### **Hairdressers and Barbers.**

Section 77 of the Public Health Act, 1961 confers upon local authorities power to make byelaws for the purposes of securing :—

(a) the cleanliness of premises, instruments, towels, materials and equipment used in connection with the business of hairdressers and barbers, and

(b) the cleanliness of the hairdressers or barbers working in the premises in regard to both themselves and their clothing.

These provisions are most welcome and byelaws made under this Section will enable local authorities to enforce reasonable standards of hygiene in hairdressing establishments.

The Council readily gave its consent to the necessary procedure being instituted for the making and adoption of such byelaws.

The byelaws were subsequently made and were confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 27th September, 1962, and came into operation on the 1st November, 1962.

### **Factories.**

The number of factories on the Register at the end of the year was eighty-seven.

Thirty-four inspections were made for the purposes of provisions as to health. No infringements of the Act were found which required statutory action.

In fourteen cases certain contraventions, of Section 9 of the Act relating to sanitary accommodation, were brought to the notice of factory owners informally and in each case satisfactory remedial measures were taken.

### **Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.**

#### **(a) Rodent Control.**

Treatment of sewers were carried out twice during the year in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and undoubtedly reduced the rat population both in sewers and surface infesta-



tions. All complaints received were investigated and suitable methods of treatment carried out.

The Council's refuse tips were kept under constant observation and measures of control carried out when and where necessary.

The number of inspections and treatments of surface infestations are shown in the following table :—

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)	(3) All other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols (1), (2) and (3)	Agricultural
Number of properties in Local Authority's District	25	10017	731	11773	60
Number of properties inspected as a result of					
(a) Notification	—	68	34	102	2
(b) Survey under the Act	25		51	76	40
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	10	4	14	—
Number of infested properties treated	15	49	48	112	11

#### (b) Insect Control.

The increasing use by householders of residual insecticides, which can now be purchased at reasonable prices, has been of great value in minimising the incidence of such insects as the bed bug, flea and louse and very few infestations by these human parasites were brought to the notice of the Department. During the year the most frequent insect infestations met with have been those of cockroaches and furniture beetle.

All reported infestations of insects were investigated and insecticides issued and advice given on their proper use.

#### Offices.

Plans submitted, showing alterations to existing premises and for the erection of new premises, have been carefully scrutinised and, where necessary, amendments were suggested to ensure compliance with the anticipated prescribed standards as proposed in the Bill on health and safety in offices.

## **Cinemas.**

On inspection, the condition with regard to cleanliness and sanitary accommodation provisions at the four cinemas operating in the District was found to be satisfactory.

## **Disinfection of Houses.**

A supply of germicidal fluid is kept in store for use by householders in cases of infectious diseases.

## **Recreation Grounds.**

Further progress towards the provision of additional recreational facilities in the District was made during the year.

Public open space is being provided by land reclamation schemes at Blaydon and Rowlands Gill refuse disposal points. In addition, a lay-out for the provision of a recreation park and swimming pool has been agreed upon by the Council on 12 acres of land at Rowlands Gill which was originally the site of property dealt with under the Housing Acts.

These amenities are most welcome and will, no doubt, contribute greatly to the health of the Community.

# Summary of Sanitary Defects and Nuisances Remedied—General Summary

	Inspection	Informal Notices Served	Statutory Notices Served	Defects Remedied After Notice	Legal Proceedings and General Remarks
Housing:—					
Public Health and Housing Acts ...	1950	132	3	237	—
Overcrowding		—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:—					
Insufficient ...	8		—	—	—
Defective ...	80	57	—	43	—
Drainage ...	182	41	—	35	—
Water Supply	78	35	—	30	—
Food Premises	353	28	—	28	—
Shops Act	98	4	—	4	—
Dairies ...	6	2	—	2	—
Slaughterhouses:—					
Public ...	—	—	—	—	—
Private	65	—	—	—	—
Tents, Vans, etc.	6	2	—	2	—
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—	—
Factories and Workplaces	34	6	—	6	—
Keeping of Animals	3	2	—	2	—
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles	240	240	—	240	—
Offensive Accumulations	—	—	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances ...	10	4	—	—	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 ...					—
L.A. Premises	30	—	—	—	—
Dwelling houses	87	—	—	—	—
Business Premises ...	116	—	—	—	—
Agricultural Premises	40	—	—	—	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3386</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>—</b>

## **VI. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD**

### **1. Milk and Milk Products.**

#### **Milk**

This District is part of a specified area in which only milk of specified designation may be sold.

The provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960, relating to the granting of Dealers' Licences, authorising the use of 'special designations,' had effect from 1st January, 1961 and all such licences are now granted by the Food and Drugs Authority which, for this District, is the Durham County Council.

Four dairies, which are used mainly as receiving depots, remain registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

13 pints equivalent weight of canned milk were found to be unsound, voluntarily surrendered, and disposed of so as to prevent its use for human consumption.

#### **Ice Cream.**

Two premises remain registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream.

In both establishments, the apparatus used in the manufacture of the product is of modern design which enables the occupiers of the premises to comply fully with the requirements of the Ice-cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations.

During the year visits were made to the premises and samples of ice-cream, at various stages of production, were taken for bacteriological examination. Without exception these samples proved to be of satisfactory bacteriological quality.

### **2. Meat and Meat Products.**

#### **Meat**

125 lbs. of liver were ascertained to be diseased after slaughter and accordingly disposed of and not offered for sale for human consumption.

#### **Meat Products**

323 lbs. canned meat were found to be unsound, voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as to prevent its use for human consumption.



## Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	50	—	—	105	2
Number inspected	50	—	—	105	2
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticer- cosis</b>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercois	28%	—	—	—	—
<b>Tuberculosis Only</b>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Cysticercosis Only</b>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Six slaughterman licences, granted under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958 were in force during the year.

### 3. Other Foods.

The following other food products were found to be unsound, voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as to prevent their use for human consumption.

Canned Foods	Weight
Fruit .....	361 lbs.
Vegetables .....	30 lbs.

#### **4. Food Premises.**

Routine inspections of all premises used for manufacture, sale and storage of food, continued during the year and it was pleasing to note that the general standard of food hygiene practice in the District continues to improve.

Publicity material, comprising leaflets and extracts from legal statutes, were constantly being circulated among occupiers of food premises and other food handlers to assist them in recognising their responsibilities and obligations under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960.

Minor contraventions of the Regulations were dealt with on the spot by the Public Health Inspectors at the time of inspection whilst more serious acts of default were reported to the Council and appropriate action taken.

Visits to food premises totalled 353; and, in 28 cases, it was found necessary to serve written notices drawing attention to non-compliance of the Regulations. The notices were complied with before the end of the year.

#### **5. Food Sampling.**

The Durham County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the District and enforced the sampling provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Inspection of unfit dwellings, scheduled to be dealt with under the Housing Act, 1957, continued during the year and official representations in respect of the following areas were made to the Council :—

- (a) 1 to 26 Cowen Street, Blaydon Haughs
- (b) 18 to 28 (even Nos.) Parliament Street, Winlaton.
- (c) 21a, 21b, and 21 Church Street, Winlaton.
- (d) 12 to 30 (even Nos.) Hanover Square, Winlaton.
- (e) 1 and 3 George Street, 1 John Street, 2 Edward Street, 8 Bk. Railway Street and 9 to 29 Railway Street, Blaydon.
- (f) 2 to 10 Ransons Houses, Winlaton.

Action under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957 was agreed upon and Compulsory Purchase Orders were made in respect of the areas (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f); a Clearance Order was made in respect of area (a).

The following dwellings were dealt with as individual unfit houses not capable at a reasonable expense of being rendered fit :—

No. 5 Robinson Street, Blaydon .....	Demolition Order
Nos. 1 and 2 Helen Court, Blaydon .....	Closing Order
No. 20 Barlow Road, Barlow .....	Demolition Order
67 and 69 Rectory Lane, Winlaton .....	Demolition Order
Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 New House Cottages, Chopwell.....	Demolition Order
Nos. 1 to 8 Low Spen Cottages, Rowlands Gill .....	Demolition Order
Nos. 1 and 2 West Thornley Farm Cottages, Rowlands Gill .....	Demolition Order
West House, Barlow .....	Demolition Order

**Blaydon (Shibdon Street) Clearance Area**

This is an area bounded on the south by Shibdon Road, on the west by Thomas Terrace, on the north by Railway Street, and on the east by Edward Street, Blaydon.

When the Council's programme for slum clearance was prepared for submission to the Ministry, in accordance with the 1954 Act it was agreed the houses in this Area be scheduled for demolition by 1974. This proposal was also included in the Blaydon Town Map and the 14 acres of land, after demolition of the houses, allocated for industrial purposes.

During the year the Council considered a report on the condition of the properties and a provisional programme for dealing with them under the Housing Act, 1957 was agreed upon. This programme is as follows :—

**No. 1 Area.**

Edward and George Streets (parts of) .....	198 houses
(north of Shibdon Street)	(1963-65)

**No. 2 Area.**

John and James Streets and Thomas Terrace (parts of) ..... 202 houses  
(1966-68)

**No. 3 Area.**

Remainder of Edward and George and John Streets ..... 122 houses  
(odd Nos.) (1969-71)

**No. 4 Area.**

Remainder of John and James Streets ..... 124 houses  
and Thomas Terrace (1972-74)

Such a programme would assist in planning the housing schemes necessary for rehousing the displaced families.

**Number of Habitable Houses in the District.**

Blaydon Ward .....	2,377
Winlaton Ward .....	3,338
Rowlands Gill Ward .....	1,994
High Spen Ward .....	666
Chopwell Ward .....	1,781
	<hr/>
Total —	10,156
	<hr/>

## Overcrowding.

Complete statistics on overcrowding are not available but some indication of its extent may be deduced from the following figures supplied by the Housing Manager :

**Number of Listed Applicants for Council Houses**

Classification	Totals	Not Overcrowded	Overcrowded	% of Overcrowded Applicants
Families occupying premises as Tenants	523	444	79	15.1%
Families occupying premises as Sub-tenants	336	285	51	15.2%
Aged Persons	251	251	—	—
Totals	1110	980	130	11.17%

Applications, for Council House accommodation, from persons living in overcrowded conditions, continued to be given a high priority by the Allocation Committee and has considerably alleviated the problem.

**Tabular Statement for the Year, 1962**

New Houses completed during Year	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority	68	—	68
(b) By any other Housing Authority	—	—	—
(c) By Private Persons	—	158	158

## Closing and Demolition of Houses.

### A. Formal Action.

- |     |   |     |
|-----|---|-----|
| i   | Number of houses demolished during the year as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action .....       | 78  |
| ii  | Number of houses closed but not demolished as a result of formal action .....                                   | 2   |
| iii | Number of Houses in Clearance Areas and individual unfit houses demolition of which temporarily postponed ..... | Nil |
| iv  | Number of houses in use as temporary accommodation (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, Part 1) .....          | Nil |



**B. Informal Action.**

Number of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings as a result of informal action and not included above ..... 5

**Reconditioning and Repair.**

Number of houses made fit during year by procedure under Housing Acts (excluding temporary accommodation) or Public Health Acts :

(a) As a result of informal action ..... 150

(b) By owners as a result of Statutory Notices ..... 3

(c) By local Authority in default of owners ..... 1

**Improvement Grants Housing Acts, 1949-59.**

	Number of Separate Houses	
	Discretionary Grant	Standard Grant
(a) Applications submitted to Local Authority .....	Nil	47
(b) Applications rejected by Local Authority .....	Nil	3
(c) Total number of applications received since inception of Scheme .....	Nil	149
(d) Total number of grants paid .....	Nil	107

# APPENDIX

## Factories Acts, 1937 to 1959

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year, 1962, for the Urban District of Blaydon in the County of Durham.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factory Act, 1937.

### Part I of the Act

#### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector)

PREMISES	Number of Premises on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	15	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	72	29	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	87	34	—	—

#### 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were Found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
b) Unsuitable or defective	14	12	—	4	—
c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	14	12	—	4	—

There are three outworkers in the District all engaged in the making of wearing apparel. No cases of default under Section 110 occurred and no action was necessary as regards unwholesome premises under Section 111.

## STAFF OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT — 1962

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

John A. Dryden, M.A., B.Sc., M.B., B.Chir., D.P.H., D.I.H.

### SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

Wilson Joyce, Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E. Joint Board.  
Cert. R.S.I. Inspector of Meat and Other Food.

### ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS :—

Edward Ridley, Cert. Public Health Inspectors Association Education Board.  
Cert. R.S.H. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.  
Cert. R.S.H. Smoke Inspector.

David Hubbick, Cert. Public Health Inspectors Association Education Board.  
Cert. R.S.H. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

### PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

Derek R. Bottomley.

### PUBLIC HEALTH CLERK :

Margaret Young.







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